



# WACO REGIONAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

## Family News

### — FROM YOUR DIRECTOR —

We are living in busy days as church members and leaders, and I am seeing signs of that everywhere. Some of the symptoms include chronic tiredness, can't remember the last real day off, and more meals eaten inside the car than at the dining table. Recognize any of those? I can personally testify that sometimes hectic schedules can push us to actually be "unchristian" in our attitudes and relationships. I had to laugh as I was enjoying a moment of prayer with a couple of pastors this morning and one of them was trying to pray while his TWO cell phones were beeping and dinging and ringing at the same time! After the prayer, I offered him my cell phone and encouraged him saying, "Here, it seems like you probably need one more of those!" We both enjoyed the laugh.



But the pressures of modern life are very real, and the effects upon our bodies, minds, spirits, and families are also very real. As we come around the corner to prepare for our Association's Annual Meeting (October 14) and the Texas Baptists Annual Meeting (November 17-18) I pray you will have the wisdom to walk through your days fully alive to Christ and fully tuned into His Spirit and fully enjoying each day as the gift that it truly is.

"And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ (Phil. 1:9-10 NIV).

In His Service,  
Tim

## — Hunger Ministry Spotlight —

As I go into the different hunger ministries in our WRBA churches, it never ceases to amaze me how magnificent God's Kingdom on earth is and how many workers are laboring to bring in the harvest! Last week I met Pantry Director Helen Lewis and her dedicated volunteers at the Shepherd's Heart sponsored food pantry at Carver Park Baptist Church. Located near the Estella Maxey federal housing complex, this group of about 12 volunteers diligently serves 40-60 families every other week.



"We've seen the numbers grow rapidly over the last year or two," said Lewis. "We feel blessed that we can provide a service to the community in this way."

The doors open promptly at 10:00am on the first and third Friday of each month, but the volunteers work many hours before that picking up food from Shepherd's Heart food drop-off that comes from the Capital Area Food Bank, stocking the food in their church and boxing up 10-12 home delivery boxes. All the volunteers wear the same T-shirt, boosting morale and creating unity while also being easily identifiable to the many guests that come seeking assistance. After a brief interview that collects information required by the Capital Area Food Bank, the guests are guided through a well organized line of tables piled high with varieties of bread, fresh produce, meat and canned goods. Guests can select items themselves and are assisted to their car if help is needed. When the ministry began several years ago, they only saw half the amount of people that come today.



Carver Park Baptist Church volunteers organize a food pantry.

Lewis has served the Waco community for more than 30 years in the Health and Human Services field. She now uses her gift of administration to organize and encourage church volunteers. A humble, soft-spoken woman, she hesitates to talk about herself, always giving God and others all the praise!

Since the ministry's beginning, James Jones has driven the van with boxes of food for the community. He volunteered for many years and learned the ropes at Shepherd's Heart main location. When his church opened a pantry, he assisted in any way he could. Jones enjoys the ministry of taking food to neighbors who do not drive. He spends time with them in prayer and conversation. He knows he is often the only one they will see in a week. Jones makes sure each one is dealt with in a special way, discerning what God has to share with them and giving freely of his time and love.

This family of believers is exhibiting love of the Father with every seed they sow.

Conway Del Conte  
Hunger Ministry Coordinator  
hugner@wacobaptists.org

## — Collegiate Ministry Spotlight —

The fall semester marks the official start of two distinct phases of collegiate ministry. The first serves the students who leave Waco. These are students from your collegiate ministries that leave for college or work this fall. To encourage this group on their new journey, follow up by using those pre-addressed, postage-paid cards (you passed out at the end of spring and/or summer classes) that have been returned to you. Of course the students are busy with college courses, getting adjusted to their new surroundings and making new friends. Send a quick email or text to let them know that you are thinking about and praying for them. Offer to assist in helping them to continue to pursue Christ while away at college or as they begin a new career. Volunteer to help them connect with a collegiate ministry in their area. Like you, Collegiate Ministry Coordinators in local churches all over the country are excited to welcome both new and returning college students and young professionals. Ministry coordinators are busy planning activities to ensure the continued spiritual growth of students who are coming their way.



While ensuring those students are safely launched into an new collegiate ministry community, WRBA Collegiate Ministry is also poised for the arrival of new and returning students to MCC and TSTC. That brings us to phase two and the top priority for the WRBA Collegiate Ministry. Our goal is to serve students by helping them to continue to pursue Christ during their time in the college or work setting. We are poised to be the conduit through which students and their families discover and meet spiritual and practical needs.

The ministry offers opportunities for students to get involved and begin to build and expand a network of fellow Christians. Our specific objectives are to:

- Facilitate the establishment of a working relationship between campus faculty, staff, student ministry leaders and WRBA Collegiate Ministries
- Identify specific campus needs and ministries
- Identify and connect churches able to fill those needs

### **At TSTC**

TSTC Collegiate Ministry welcomes new student leaders Perry McGill, Eston Barrow and Rick Griggs. The Collegiate Ministry Bible study at TSTC meets each Tuesday in the Aero Space Building-Room 154 at noon. Call Jewel Lockridge at 254-723-6097 to ask questions or to learn more about opportunities to participate in Collegiate Ministry at TSTC.

### **At MCC**

One MCC Bible study group meets on Tuesdays from 6:30-8:30pm at 3720 North 23rd Street. Contact Derek Brenner at 254-315-8090 for more information about this group. To find out more about a second group that meets on Wednesdays from 12:30-1:30pm in the LCT Building-Room 212,

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call Stephen Galarza at 956-204-2388.

The annual See You at the Pole was held Sept. 24 at the MCC flag pole. The 2014 theme verse, Ephesians 6:18a, follows Paul's famous passage on the armor of God, challenging and encouraging Christ followers to stand strong in the Lord and be His representatives to share the Good News of the Gospel. This year, 32 MCC students gathered for SYATP to humble themselves, turn to God and intercede for their generation. Call Stephen Galarza at 956-204-2388 to learn more about opportunities to participate in Collegiate Ministry at MCC.

Stephen Galarza, MCC Collegiate Ministry Coordinator  
mcc@wacobaptists.org

Jewel Lockridge, Ph.D., TSTC Collegiate Ministry Coordinator  
tstc@wacobaptists.org



Students gather on Sept. 24 for See You at the Pole on the campus of McLennan Community College.

## — THE BODY OF BELIEVERS —

The 2014 WRBA Annual Meeting will be held at 6:00pm on Oct. 14 at Columbus Avenue Baptist Church. A catered meal will precede a short business meeting. Following this will be a time of worship, preaching from BGCT Director Pastor Church Connection Joe Loughlin, and a time of fellowship over dessert and coffee.

Associate Pastor Rick Cadden said, "The annual meeting is a great event full of fellowship and a time to hear about the work God is doing through so many churches here in Waco."

He hopes people who come to the Annual Meeting will see that Columbus Avenue Baptist Church "supports the WRBA and believes in their work in our community."

The church is a family church and has people of all ages and an active following of their Sunday morning broadcast service. It is very active in the Waco community and continues to seek more opportunities to serve.

Cadden said, "I am excited about some new programming we are implementing in discipleship and outreach for this fall."

If you would like to hear more about what God is doing at this church and in other WRBA churches, come to the WRBA Annual Meeting. Please make reservations by Oct. 6.

Cadden said, "Please join us on Oct. 14 for another great time of gathering the saints together. Come and enjoy the hospitality of CABC and a time of worship and praise and preaching."

## — Upcoming Events —



You are invited to be

*In Step with the Spirit Through the Fruit of the Spirit, KINDNESS*

“If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.” Galatians 5:25



### **Baptist Women’s World Day of Prayer**

Tuesday, November 4, 2014

12 Spanish Oak, Waco, 76710

Off of Hillcrest at Lake Shore Drive

Home of Carey Hobbs

(Bible Study/Devotional by Cindy Hobbs Janecka)

For directions call Kathy Hillman at 749-5347

Brunch at 9:30am

Program and Prayer Time at 10:00am



Focus on the Plight and Promise of Latin American Women



### **November Ministers Round Table**

**12:00pm on November 5 at Truett Seminary**

**Topic:** Time Management

**Speaker:** Katie Swafford

Please make a reservation by **October 30.**

Contact Katelyn at [admin@wacobaptists.org](mailto:admin@wacobaptists.org) or (254) 753-2408.

## **Other October Events**

**Wednesday, October 1, 12:00pm — Ministers Roundtable.** Truett.

**Tuesday, October 7, 6:30pm — CWJC Baskets of Hope Fundraiser.**  
Woodway FBC.

**Tuesday, October 14, 6:00pm — WRBA Annual Meeting.** Columbus  
Avenue Baptist.

**October 15-17 — No Need Among You Conference.** Austin, TX.

**Thursday, October 16, 12:00pm — Networking & Missions.** Waco  
FBC.

**Tuesday, November 4, 9:30am — Baptist Women’s Day of Prayer.**  
12 Spanish Oak, Waco.

**Wednesday, November 5, 12:00pm — Ministers Roundtable.** Truett.

## — Community News —

**Continue to pray for WRBA churches seeking a Pastor:**

Hilltop, Lake Shore, Lorena FBC, Old Time, Pleasant Olive MBC,  
Woodway FBC

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Congrats to Concord Baptist Church and their new pastor, Billy Schulz!